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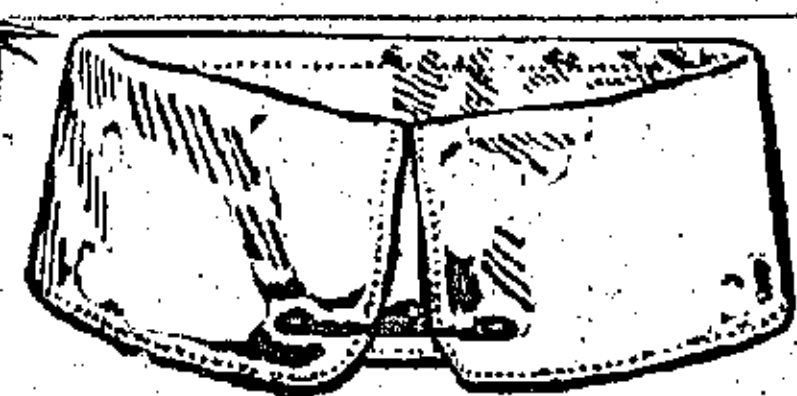
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[2227]

THE MURDER OF SERGEANT GLENDINNING.

THE JURY'S VERDICT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

THE NEED FOR TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION IN OUT-STATIONS.

INDIAN CONSTABLES' CONDUCT CENSURED.

At the Hongkong Magistracy, yesterday, Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, in his capacity as Coroner, concluded the inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of Police-Sergeant T. Glendinning, who was murdered at Tai O on July 17th. Simultaneously an inquest was held on the body of P. C. Bhigna Singh (the constable who, it is stated, shot Sergeant Glendinning).

The following were the jury:—Messrs. H. J. Rowe, A. M. de Souza, and D. E. M. de Souza.

Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse (acting Captain-Superintendent of Police) and Mr. T. H. King, A.S.P., were present on behalf of the Police.

B152, who gave his evidence the previous day, was recalled.

The Coroner—In reply to a question yesterday as to whether there had been any trouble between the Indians and Sergeant Glendinning you replied that there was no trouble between yourself and the Sergeant. What I wish to know is—Has there been any trouble between the Indians—except in the case of alleged larceny—and the Sergeant at Tai O?

Witness: B36's box was searched by the Interpreter on June 26th.

Mr. King—But Sergeant Glendinning had nothing to do with that?—Witness: No. Sergeant Glendinning was away in Hongkong.

Why was the box searched?—Witness replied that the constable was accused of the theft of some money.

Was there no trouble between the Indians and the Sergeant?—No.

The Coroner: Do you know that B18 left a letter stating that the Sergeant was bad; that he was oppressing the Indians and taking bribes? Do you know anything about it?—Witness: I do not know whether there has been any gambling or not.

You don't know why B18 made the accusation against the Sergeant?—No.

THE MISSING INDIAN GUARD.

Indian constable B145 deposed: On July 17th, the day Sergeant Glendinning was murdered, I was at Tai O. I have been stationed at Tai O eight months, and have been in the Police Force for nine years. At Tai O one man is on duty during the day and two at night. On July 17th I went on station duty at 10 a.m., relieving B152. I had my rifle and ammunition. I did not report in the charge-room before I went on duty; it is not the custom. I saw Sergeant Glendinning when I went on duty; he was sitting in a chair. I did not see anyone else.

When I went on station guard I stood under a tree at the western corner of the station. The window of the charge-room is slightly to my left when I stand under the tree looking at the sea.

Mr. King—As you stand under the tree can you see into the charge-room?—Witness: One sitting in the charge-room could not see me, and if one wished to look into the charge-room one would have to stand on one's toes.

Can you see if a person stands in the charge-room?—Yes, if the person comes to the window.

On the morning of the 17th you took up your post under this tree. Tell us what happened?—When I took up my post under the tree, I stood at attention, looking out over the sea. I heard a noise similar to a shot being fired, and everybody then ran out of the station.

You say everybody then ran out of the station?—Yes, they were without shoes.

What did you do?—I followed them.

How many shots did you hear?—I only heard one.

You only heard one before you ran?—Yes.

Did you run towards the flag-pole?—I ran to the gate on the west side.

Did you go through the gate?—Yes.

That's the gate which leads to the pier where the sampan stops?—Yes, that's the Government wharf.

Where did you go to when you got through the gate?—I went up the hill.

Did you take your rifle with you?—Yes.

And your ammunition?—Yes, everything.

When you heard the first shot did you look round or make any enquiries as to what the shot was?—Yes, I did look at the back of the station.

Where did the sound of the first shot come from?—I cannot say.

Did it sound far away or close?—I do not know; I only heard the noise; I cannot say where the shot was fired or where it came from.

You were awake, you were not asleep, when it happened?—I was standing wide awake.

When you heard the shot why did you not run to the charge-room?—I could not think of it. When I found the others running I did the same.

How do you know whether you might have run into a pirate or someone up on the hill? How could you explain it?—I did not know until I went up the hill that the shots had been fired at the station.

How far up the hill did you go?—About 50 yards from the gate along the sea-front and then 50 yards up.

Mr. King mentioned that the site for the station was cut out of the hill, which was very steep.

When you went up did anyone join you there?—B202, B361, and B36. They ran at about the same time.

Did they run by the same path as you?—They went along the sea-front, but not up the hill. I do not know where they went to.

Did they or you run first?—They.

Did they come round the front of the station or the back?—The back.

When you got on to the hillside what did you do?—I sat down there and heard many shots fired, but I could not think who fired them.

How long were you sitting there?—For two and a half hours.

Did you hear other shots?—Yes, till 1.30 shots were fired.

Did you hear the Sergeant's wife scream or call?—No.

You mean to say you heard the shots but not her screams?—No.

Did you know whether she was in the station?—I knew she was in the station, but I did not know whether she had run out or not.

Did you know where Sergeant Glendinning was?—When?

At the time or afterwards?—I did not know where he was when I ran.

Did you try to find out?—No.

Why not? Because my mind was upset.

When you got on the hillside did you make any enquiry about the Sergeant?—No, what enquiries could I make on the hillside? I heard shots.

When the other men came did you not make enquiries?—No.

What did you ask them?—Nothing.

Did they tell you anything?—Nothing.

What did you do for two and a half hours on the hillside?—I sat there doing nothing.

Did you see the Sergeant Interpreter and others come up the hillside with rifles?—No.

Did you hear shots being fired on the other side of the hill?—No.

All the shots came from the station?—Yes.

After remaining for two and a half hours, where did you go?—I went down the slope on the eastern side to Shek Tai Po.

About what time was that?—I think it was about 1.30 p.m.

Whom did you see down there?—I saw the Interpreter and the other Indians in the village.

Were all the Indians in the village?—No; a few.

Was Sergeant 144 there?—No, the Sergeants were not there.

Did you see the station burning?—Yes, at about 1.30 when I got to Shek Tai Po.

Where were you when you first saw the station on fire?—On the spot where I was sitting on the hillside. When I saw it I went down the slopes.

Which part of the station was burning first?—The Chinese boatmen's room.

Had you your rifle with you when you first saw the fire?—Yes.

Did you go into the station to try and put the fire out?—Yes, I went to help with the people on the launch.

How long had the station been burning before you got up to go down the hill?—Between 20 and 25 minutes.

During that time did you go to the station to attempt to put out the fire?—I tried to go in.

The Coroner—No, no. Did you go into the station? You were armed. Answer either "Yes" or "No"?—Witness: Yes. I came down to go towards the gate.

Did you go to the gate or not?—No.

Mr. King—You sat watching the station burning for 20 or 25 minutes without doing anything?—Witness: When I satisfied myself that the station was on fire I went to it.

But you said you sat for 20 or 25 minutes watching the fire?—I meant 20 or 25 minutes before the launch came.

When you saw the station on fire did you try to find Sergeant Glendinning?—Yes, I began to come down, and when I reached the bottom of the hill I was about to ask.

Did you ask?—No. I saw all there, and I did not make any distinction or enquiry of anyone particularly.

Did you know that the Sergeant was dead?—No.

When were you first aware that Sergeant Glendinning was dead?—When I got into the station.

With the Sergeant in No. 2 launch?—Yes.

Let us go back to 10 a.m. You went on duty from the big room. Who was in it?—All; they were sleeping.

Except B21?—Yes, I went to relieve him.

Do you know how many were in the small room?—I knew there were three beds.

When did you have your meal?—At 7.30.

Did B18 eat with you?—Yes.

Where did the sound of the first shot come from?—I cannot say.

Did it sound far away or close?—I do not know; I only heard the noise; I cannot say where the shot was fired or where it came from.

You were awake, you were not asleep, when it happened?—I was standing wide awake.

When you heard the shot why did you not run to the charge-room?—I could not think of it. When I found the others running I did the same.

How do you know whether you might have run into a pirate or someone up on the hill? How could you explain it?—I did not know until I went up the hill that the shots had been fired at the station.

How far up the hill did you go?—About 50 yards from the gate along the sea-front and then 50 yards up.

Mr. King mentioned that the site for the station was cut out of the hill, which was very steep.

When you went up did anyone join you there?—B202, B361, and B36. They ran at about the same time.

Did they run by the same path as you?—They went along the sea-front, but not up the hill. I do not know where they went to.

Did they or you run first?—They.

Did they come round the front of the station or the back?—The back.

When you got on to the hillside what did you do?—I sat down there and heard many shots fired, but I could not think who fired them.

How long were you sitting there?—For two and a half hours.

Did you hear other shots?—Yes, till 1.30 shots were fired.

Did you hear the Sergeant's wife scream or call?—No.

You mean to say you heard the shots but not her screams?—No.

Did you know whether she was in the station?—I knew she was in the station, but I did not know whether she had run out or not.

Did you know where Sergeant Glendinning was?—When?

At the time or afterwards?—I did not know where he was when I ran.

Did you try to find out?—No.

Why not? Because my mind was upset.

When you got on the hillside did you make any enquiry about the Sergeant?—No, what enquiries could I make on the hillside? I heard shots.

When the other men came did you not make enquiries?—No.

What did you ask them?—Nothing.

Did they tell you anything?—Nothing.

What did you do for two and a half hours on the hillside?—I sat there doing nothing.

Did you see the Sergeant Interpreter and others come up the hillside with rifles?—No.

Did you hear shots being fired on the other side of the hill?—No.

All the shots came from the station?—Yes.

After remaining for two and a half hours, where did you go?—I went down the slope on the eastern side to Shek Tai Po.

About what time was that?—I think it was about 1.30 p.m.

Whom did you see down there?—I saw the Interpreter and the other Indians in the village.

Were all the Indians in the village?—No; a few.

Was Sergeant 144 there?—No, the Sergeants were not there.

Did you see the station burning?—Yes, at about 1.30 when I got to Shek Tai Po.

Where were you when you first saw the station on fire?—On the spot where I was sitting on the hillside. When I saw it I went down the slopes.

Which part of the station was burning first?—The Chinese boatmen's room.

Had you your rifle with you when you first saw the fire?—Yes.

Did you go into the station to try and put the fire out?—Yes, I went to help with the people on the launch.

How long had the station been burning before you got up to go down the hill?—Between 20 and 25 minutes.

During that time did you go to the station to attempt to put out the fire?—I tried to go in.

The Coroner—No, no. Did you go into the station? You were armed. Answer either "Yes" or "No"?—Witness: Yes. I came down to go towards the gate.

Did you go to the gate or not?—No.

Mr. King—You sat watching the station burning for 20 or 25 minutes without doing anything?—Witness: When I satisfied myself that the station was on fire I went to it.

But you said you sat for 20 or 25 minutes watching the fire?—I meant 20 or 25 minutes before the launch came.

When you saw the station on fire did you try to find Sergeant Glendinning?—Yes, I began to come down, and when I reached the bottom of the hill I was about to ask.

Did you ask?—No. I saw all there, and I did not make any distinction or enquiry of anyone particularly.

Did you know that the Sergeant was dead?—No.

When were you first aware that Sergeant Glendinning was dead?—When I got into the station.

With the Sergeant in No. 2 launch?—Yes.

Let us go back to 10 a.m. You went on duty from the big room. Who was in it?—All; they were sleeping.

Except B21?—Yes, I went to relieve him.

Do you know how many were in the small room?—I knew there were three beds.

When did you have your meal?—At 7.30.

Did B18 eat with you?—Yes.

Was B18 all right? Did he seem ill?—He got up before us; I cannot say whether he had his full meal or not.

When you went out at 10 a.m. there was a man sleeping on each bed?—Yes.

Was B18 in the room?—Yes. He was lying on his bed.

Is it usual for all the Indians to sleep in their beds in the early morning?—Yes, because they have to do night duty.

But B18 was not on duty?—No.

When did you see him?—At 6 a.m., after I returned from night duty.

Did he seem all right?—Yes. He washed his face and brushed his teeth.

Did you know that B18 was locked up?—No, I was in Hongkong, but I heard of it when I went to Tai O.

Apartment from that has there been any trouble between B18, or any of the other Indians, and the Sergeant?—No.

The Coroner—The Sergeant did not harm you or ill-treat you in any way? In a note that B18 wrote he says the Sergeant was a bad man and had oppressed the Indians. Did he oppress you?—Witness: No.

Was he very hard or stern?—I don't know; we had to do our duties.

Were you not satisfied?—I was satisfied. I do not know whether the others were satisfied or not.

Do you consider that you were doing your duty by running away instead of questioning other people and finding out what was the matter?—I could not think of anything; I ran all at once.

You were there with a rifle and 20 rounds of ammunition. You see, according to your own evidence, several men running away. You don't enquire what has happened, but run away with them. The safety of the station depends on you. What do you think you are there for?—I did not know what had happened; I simply ran.

If you did not know, it was your duty to find out?—My mind was upset and I could not think of it.

The Coroner asked whether Mrs. Glendinning would be brought as a witness. Mr. King replied that he had a medical certificate to the effect that Mrs. Glendinning was unfit to attend the court.

THE SENIOR SERGEANT'S STORY.

B144, the senior Indian Sergeant of Tai O station said he had been in the Police Force for 17 years. On July 17th he was stationed at Tai O. Being the senior Indian Sergeant he was responsible for the Police in the absence of Sergeant Glendinning. He had only been two months at Tai O. He had his meal at 8.30 a.m. After his meal he went to bed in the big room. B152 was on duty then. All the Indians were on their beds at the time. B18 was in the room, lying on his own bed. Witness thought B18 was not asleep. He did not seem strange, and he was all right. Witness then went on to say that he got up about 10.30 a.m., as he heard rifle-shots being fired. He ran out of the station, accompanied by the others. They heard the sounds of firing; then they thought about the arms, which they could not get, as these were at the station. They then went to the Tai O pier and saw the Interpreter. Witness told the Interpreter that they must go to Castle Peak to send a message to Hongkong, and B152 and a Chinese detective set out for Castle Peak. He did not do anything after that. He remained near the station for two hours.

Mr. King—What happened after two hours?—Witness: What could happen? The station was set on fire, the launch arrived, and we went up.

How many shots did you hear when you woke up?—Three.

Whom did you see running?—All.

Who got out of the door first?—I cannot say.

Were you the last?—Yes.

B152 says he was the last?—Yes, what he says is right and what I say is right. Who was last?—It does not matter much who was last.

Why did you run?—Because we did not know what had happened.

Did you stop on the verandah to see what had happened?—No; I went round

THE CONSCRIPTION TRIBUNAL.

THIRTEENTH MEETING.

THREE MEN SELECTED OUT OF FIVE.

A meeting of the Hongkong Conscription Tribunal was held at the Council Chamber yesterday afternoon, the Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., O.B.E., presiding over a full attendance of members. There were five cases under consideration, and three men were selected for military service, two of them being granted temporary exemption until October 12th. The results, briefly stated, were as follows:—

MESSRS. LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS.

A. E. Schulz, temporary exemption until October 12th.

In this firm W. J. Woolley, T. A. Martin and A. J. J. Martin have been rejected as medically unfit.

ROBINSON PIANO CO.

P. H. Weston, no exemption.

There are no unfit men of military age in this firm.

MESSRS. CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.

E. W. S. Evans, temporary exemption until October 12th.

There are no unfit men of military age in this firm.

MESSRS. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.

E. F. Aucott, exempt.

The remaining men of military age in this firm were before the Tribunal on July 15th.

HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO.

D. G. Nicoll, exempt.

There are no unfit men of military age in this Company.

RESULTS UP TO DATE.

So far the names of 345 men have been revised by the Tribunal. Out of these 151 men have been declared medically unfit, leaving 194 cases to be dealt with. The following is the result of the Tribunal's deliberations:—

Total Exemptions 124

Temporary Exemptions 26

No Exemption 5

Substitutions 3

LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS.

The first case considered was that of A. E. Schulz. Mr. A. R. Lowe appeared on behalf of the firm.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Lowe)—The Tribunal has read the papers you have sent in to us and from them we see the case you put to us is that your firm is, as of course we knew, a firm of accountants and auditors here and that your firm's business largely consists in auditing the accounts of Hongkong companies and firms, also liquidations, receiverships and bankruptcies work under the Courts; that your firm started in Hongkong in 1902, before which time there were no qualified accountants practising in the Colony, and that your firm has branches in Shanghai, which we understand, is the largest branch, Singapore and London. You put it to the Tribunal that the firm's work has now become necessary to the carrying on of the trade of the Colony and is, therefore, essential within the meaning of the Ordinance. You ask for the absolute exemption of Mr. Schulz. Your pre-war staff in Hongkong consisted of six Europeans—two chartered accountants, one incorporated accountant and three general clerks, and six Portuguese and Chinese, comprising one incorporated accountant and five general clerks. Now your European staff is seven, consisting of two chartered accountants as before, one incorporated accountant as before, and four general clerks instead of three. None has left Hongkong for military service.

Mr. Lowe—Two.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Dutton was away on sick leave and he remained doing accountants' work in the Ministry of Munitions. Mr. Chapman is at present away on leave.

Mr. Lowe—Mr. Chapman left the firm to go to the front. He went straight from here and is now at the front.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Williams, who is a partner, is at present away on leave. He went home in March this year and has come back as far as British Columbia.

Mr. Lowe—I have not heard but I think that he is taking a holiday in British Columbia.

The CHAIRMAN—When does he return?

Mr. Lowe—In September or October.

The CHAIRMAN—You have three junior men unit—Mr. A. J. Woolley, Mr. T. A. Martin and Mr. A. J. J. Martin. You propose their going away on short leave this year.

Mr. Lowe—I shall try to arrange it.

The CHAIRMAN—You propose yourself going away on short leave this year?

Mr. Lowe—It is mostly business.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Schulz)—You are 30 and single, and are a chartered accountant. You joined the firm about a year ago. You volunteered before the Military Service Commission, but at that time you were with Messrs. Linstead & Davis. You yourself only ask for a month's temporary exemption in order to arrange private affairs. Is there anything you wish to add?

Mr. Schulz—Nothing.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Lowe)—You have just now told us that your principal branch is in Shanghai. The Military Service Commission in Shanghai has just called up one of your men—Mr. Young. You have sent us a copy of a letter from the office of the Controller of Munitions Accounts in London saying that the munitions department—and I have no doubt it applies to other Government departments—is in urgent need of qualified accountants, and some have, therefore, been recalled from active service. You do not suggest, do you, that Hongkong is in the same position as London in this matter?

Mr. Lowe—What I meant to suggest by that was that Mr. Schulz, if he goes home, would not go home to fight. He will probably be put into one of the Government departments.

The CHAIRMAN—That may be so; that is a matter outside our power.

Major MORGAN claimed non-exemption. The Tribunal considered the matter in private and, subsequently, the Chairman announced that Mr. Schulz would be granted temporary exemption until October 12th to make arrangements.

ROBINSON PIANO CO., LTD.

The case of P. H. Weston was then considered. Mr. Hind appeared to represent the Company and Mrs. Pearson, the wife of the managing director, was also present.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Hind)—We have read the papers sent to us and you see from them that the Company imports and sells pianos and musical instruments, and that it is put to the Tribunal that the Company considers it of essential importance to the Colony—and I think it says of Imperial importance—that the importation of pianos from England should continue. It says in the letter sent to us that the Company manufactures pianos and represents several of the most important manufacturers in England and that it is essential in the interests of British trade that this business should continue, and that if the importation of musical instruments from England should lapse in favour of the importation of musical instruments of foreign make it would be quite impossible to catch up the trade again. Is the importation of pianos being continued, in fact, to any substantial extent just now?

Mr. Hind—I cannot give figures. The CHAIRMAN—We can. It has very much decreased during the war. The figures I have may be incorrect, but according to my information, only five pianos have been imported from the United Kingdom in 1918 and none has gone to the Robinson Piano Company.

Mrs. Pearson—I should have to look into the matter. I cannot say now whether that is correct or not.

The CHAIRMAN—I do not know whether my figures are correct, but I should not put them to you if I thought they were wrong. The total value of all musical instruments of every kind imported in 1918 is \$2,000. Is that a mistake?

Mr. Hind—I have not the figures for 1918, but I understand the importation in 1917 was considerably larger.

The CHAIRMAN—You ask for the absolute exemption of Mr. Weston, who is a tuner. Do you put it that a tuner is essential to the continuation of this importation?

Mr. Hind—I put it that he is essential to the continuation of the business.

The CHAIRMAN—The pre-war staff of the Company here consisted of two Europeans—a manager and the tuner and one lady assistant. The Europeans now are Mrs. Pearson, the wife of the managing director of the Company, who is acting as manager, and Mr. Pearson, we understand, comes here from time to time, but he also has to visit other branches; and one tuner, as before, and one lady assistant as before. None has left for military service.

Mr. Hind—None from Hongkong.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Weston)—You are 28 and single, and you are a piano tuner. You have been seven months here. You do not yourself ask for exemption. Is there anything you wish to add?

Mr. Weston—Nothing.

Mr. Hind—I would like to point out that we have endeavoured to get a soldier to take the place of Mr. Weston, but the conditions under which we can have the soldier make the carrying on of the business almost impossible. The whole of the tuning work has to be done in the morning.

The CHAIRMAN—What are the hours when you can have the services of the soldier?

Mr. Hind—After 12.30 each day, and most people want their tuning done in the morning.

The CHAIRMAN—Would they not, in wartime, be willing to have it done after 12.30?

Mr. Hind—They do not seem to like having their afternoon entertainments, interfered with by the tuner coming along. In fact they strenuously object to it.

Mrs. Pearson—If you take away Mr. Weston and give us a perfect stranger, you will make it very much harder for me. We are all perfectly new to this branch. I have taken it over because we could not get anyone else.

Major MORGAN claimed non-exemption. The Tribunal considered the case in private and, subsequently, the Chairman announced that no exemption would be granted to Mr. Weston.

MESSRS. CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.

The case of F. W. S. Evans was then considered. Mr. Looker appeared on behalf of the Company.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Looker)—We have read your very full statement. We see that you put it to us that the firm is a firm of wine-merchants with an old established business in Hongkong, that the head-office is in London and it has branches in Singapore, where Mr. Norman Macgregor, one of the two present partners in the firm, is in charge, in Shanghai and other places in the Far East. You put it to us that this business is essential in the interests of the Colony.

Mr. Looker—I put it that it is in the essential interests of the Colony that this business should not be closed down.

The CHAIRMAN—You ask for absolute exemption for Mr. Evans. The office staff in Hongkong at the beginning of the war consisted of two Europeans—Mr. Lafrantz and Mr. Oneshaw—and, of course, Portuguese and Chinese. Now Mr. Evans, who is before the Tribunal, is the only European. Mr. Lafrantz, who we understand was manager in Hongkong, went away on home leave in 1916, but owing to the death of Mr. Macgregor, senior, the original partner, he has stayed in London in charge of the head office. Mr. J. E. Macgregor, the present senior partner, who was lately at the head office, was called up for military service in July last year. We also understand that Mr. Swain, who is over-age and at present manager in Penang, is proposing to retire shortly and leave the East altogether. Could it not be arranged instead that he should come here to take the place of Mr. Evans?

Mr. Looker—He declines to do it and we have no means of forcing him. He is climate.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Evans)—You are 34 and married, and, as we know, are acting as manager of the Company in Hongkong. Is there anything you want to add to what has been submitted to the Tribunal?

Mr. Evans—Nothing.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Looker)—The importation of wines and spirits from Europe has considerably decreased, has it not?

Mr. Looker—It has decreased undoubtedly, but I understand it is still very substantial, both in wines and spirits.

The CHAIRMAN—The local consumption of whisky has decreased every year during the war.

Mr. Looker—Mr. Evans tells me that he believes that is so.

The CHAIRMAN—We have the figures. Mr. Looker—Oh, well, then you know more than I do.

The CHAIRMAN—There is a reference in the papers to the payment of Imperial taxes. You do not suggest, do you, that this matter makes the business essential because all businesses, essential or not essential, pay Imperial taxes?

Mr. Looker—I do not say it makes the business essential from the point of view of the Colony, but essential in view of Imperial interests, because if you close down this and all the other branches there will be nothing to pay the taxes with.

The CHAIRMAN—A branch manager of Messrs. Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co. is not necessarily an expert in wines, is he? The buying and selling is done in London and only the selling is done here, is it not?

Mr. Looker—I am informed that a branch manager is a wine expert—particularly a tropical branch manager—if he has to deal with imports. All managers have had training in the wine business.

The CHAIRMAN—Is it not the case that many successful branch managers in the Far East have not previously been experts in the wine trade?

Mr. Looker—My personal experience goes back to two managers, and one of them was undoubtedly as expert a man as you could get. Mr. Evans thinks that the last manager who was not one, but who had previously been with a general firm here, obtained the greater part of his experience under Mr. Mitchell.

Reference was then made to the personal hardship which it was suggested, in the memorandum, that some people might suffer if the business was closed down, the Chairman pointing out that the paragraph in the Ordinance dealing with this question was concerned solely with the man called up.

Mr. Looker suggested that it was a question for the Tribunal whether the clause became operative in a case where the closing down of a business would mean that a considerable number of people in England would be deprived of their means of support. He thought that the fact that many people in England would be deprived of such support placed the question in the category of Imperial interests.

Continuing, Mr. Looker said—I do not imagine it is necessary to emphasise to this Tribunal the essential connection between trading and the essential interests of the Colony. It is a well-known truth that the interests of this Colony are bound up with trade, which, as it is generally understood, is the importation of goods into the Colony, their handling here and, to a certain extent, their export out of it. There is no necessity to enlarge on the point that if you close down businesses which are largely responsible for the import into the Colony of a substantial quantity of goods and for the export of a substantial quantity you are at once affecting the essential interests of this Colony. There is one other point that I think perhaps should dwell upon, and that is this. I think it is entirely unnecessary, in considering whether any particular trade or business is in the essential interests of this Colony, to consider whether the commodities are, or are not, necessary to the individuals in the Colony. What has to be considered are the interests of the Colony, and if the interests of the Colony are concerned, as undoubtedly they are, with goods being imported, then it is not necessary to consider whether the people in the Colony can get on without these goods. You might have a business engaged solely in the importation of pure luxuries and as far as individuals are concerned the trade might be described as unnecessary in war-time, but so far as the essential interests of the Colony go it is a very different thing, for it aids the shipping and all the other processes which revolve round trading in this Colony. Therefore I submit it is not a question of whether the particular goods in a business can be dispensed with by individuals, but a question as to whether the Colony can dispense with the business as far as its interests go.

Major MORGAN—A great point has been made that if Mr. Evans goes the business will be closed down. Surely an arrangement might be made with another wine merchant in the Colony, where there are several here, some over-age and others unfit—whereby Mr. Evans could be released and the firm of Caldbeck & Macgregor still carry on. Surely Mr. Looker could draw up an agreement for safeguarding the interests of Caldbeck, Macgregor. I claim non-exemption.

Mr. Looker—I would like to say in reply to Major Morgan that I dare say I am perfectly capable of drawing up any agreement necessary, but whether it would have effect is another matter. This principle of pooling businesses in the Colony is one which has never been seriously suggested, or suggested at all, by the Tribunal. If it is suggested it should be for general application and not apply to the businesses of wine-merchants any more than to the businesses of general merchants. It could be arranged that all the piece goods for the Colony be imported by one particular firm, but it has never been suggested in the interests of the Colony, that this should be done. There is no practical possibility of this business being carried on by any other firm of wine-merchants. One firm did make some tentative suggestion, but when we came to enquire into it we found that it was confined to just keeping an eye on the books, which, of course, could be done by anyone. What one has to keep an eye upon is the supply of liquor for this Colony from various sources. There was also a suggestion by another man in the Colony who had been discharged from military service. When we came to look into that we found that his own employers objected to his leaving, and so he withdrew his application. If any other competent man in the wine trade was available we should be prepared to consider the matter, but we know of none so far.

There was an offer from a purely Chinese firm, but I do not think the Tribunal would expect us to consider that.

The Tribunal considered the matter in private and, subsequently, the Chairman announced that Mr. Evans would be granted temporary exemption until October 12th in order to make arrangements.

MESSRS. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.

The case of E. F. Aucott was then considered. Mr. Landale represented the Company.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Aucott)—Mr. Aucott has returned to the Colony from leave since the Tribunal enquired into the case of the other members of your firm. Mr. Aucott is chief clerk in the shipping office, and you tell us, Mr. Landale, in the letter you have written to the Tribunal, that it was mainly Mr. Aucott's impending arrival which enabled your firm to release Mr. Raiton and Mr. Macdonald from the shipping office. At the enquiry, the firm offered to release Mr. Raiton altogether, that is, two from the shipping office and two, Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Johnston, from the imports office. These four the Tribunal decided should go. You now ask for Mr. Aucott's absolute exemption. With regard to the shipping office, we see from the papers which you sent us before that the pre-war staff consisted of Mr. Sutherland and seven senior and four junior assistants, making 12 altogether. At the time of the recent enquiry by the Tribunal it consisted of Mr. Sutherland and two seniors and four juniors, making seven. As a result of the enquiry two men from the shipping office were released, making the staff five, and now, with Mr. Aucott's return, it is six.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Aucott)—You are 36 and married, and are chief assistant in the shipping office. We know you have just returned from London. While in London, we understand from Mr. Landale's letter, that you have been assisting in the Ministry of Shipping with regard to the enquiry into these controlled ships' accounts and his help now will be very valuable to us. He was allowed to come back, and a point the Tribunal should consider, I think, is that he had no difficulty in getting his passport. It would not be reasonable to conscript men in Hongkong who were allowed to leave England such a short time ago.

The CHAIRMAN—The question did not directly concern Mr. Aucott. We realise his position. Mr. Aucott's return will not enable you to release either Mr. Longmire or Mr. Tod?

Mr. Landale—No. We are very short handed. While Mr. Aucott has been at home he has been trying to master some of the intricacies of these controlled ships' accounts and his help now will be very valuable to us. He was allowed to come back, and a point the Tribunal should consider, I think, is that he had no difficulty in getting his passport. It would not be reasonable to conscript men in Hongkong who were allowed to leave England such a short time ago.

The CHAIRMAN—The question did not directly concern Mr. Aucott. We realise his position. Mr. Aucott's return will not enable you to release either Mr. Longmire or Mr. Tod?

Mr. Landale—No.

Major MORGAN made no claim.

After the Tribunal had considered the matter in private, the Chairman announced that Mr. Aucott would be exempted.

HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO.

The case of D. E. Nicoll was the last considered. Mr. Adamson appeared on behalf of the Company.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Adamson)—We see from the papers that the Company manufactures rope for the Admiralty and mercantile shipping and for other purposes. You put it that this is an important and old established industry of the Colony and that the work is of essential importance both imperially and locally. You ask for absolute exemption for Mr. Nicoll. It seems to be scarcely a question of your pre-war staff. At the beginning of the war your European staff was one engineer—Mr. Edwards—who has left, one machinist who has also left. There was also one American, Mr. Klink, the superintendent, and one other engineer—Mr. Gardner—who is over-age. The staff now, we understand, is one European engineer—Mr. Nicoll, who is before the Tribunal, Mr. Klink, the superintendent, an assistant superintendent, and others as before.

Mr. Adamson—Mr. Gardner is put down as an engineer now, but he is not an engineer.

The CHAIRMAN—One man, Mr. Goulborn, has gone home to join up.

The CHAIRMAN (continuing, to Mr. Nicoll)—You are 37 and married, and an engineer. You have only been with the Company two months. Is there anything you want to say?

Mr. Nicoll—Nothing.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Adamson)—You put it to us that it would be impossible for the Company to carry on without Mr. Nicoll or someone else in his place?

Mr. Adamson—We must have a qualified engineer.

Major MORGAN made no claim.

The CHAIRMAN—We understand that Mr. Nicoll, who has been with this Company for so short a time, was formerly with the Green Island Cement Company?

Mr. Adamson—Yes.

The CHAIRMAN—What was the arrangement before Mr. Nicoll joined up? We understand that Mr. Edwards was the engineer and that he left.

Mr. Adamson—Yes, and Mr. Goulborn, the machinist, has gone.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the decision of the Tribunal was that Mr. Nicoll would be exempted.

NEARING THE END.

The CHAIRMAN—We understand that no more cases will be ready to be heard for a few days, and, therefore, the next sitting of the Tribunal will take place early next week, on Tuesday or Wednesday, Monday being a holiday. Notice of the date will be published in the Press.

The Tribunal then adjourned.

THE APPEAL TRIBUNAL.

H.E. the Governor-in-Council will sit at 9.30 a.m. on August 8th to hear the following appeals from decisions of the General Military Service Tribunal:—

(1). Adjourned appeal by the Mercantile Bank against enrolment of Mr. E. Kennedy.

(2). Appeal by the Asiatic Petroleum Co. against enrolment of Mr. M. M. Macdonald.

(3). Appeal by the Proper Military Authority against the exemption of Mr. G. G. Wood.

(Other Local News will be found on Page 4.)

LANE, CRAWFORD AND COMPANY.



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BROWN KID

AND MEDIUM WEIGHT

BROWN LEATHER

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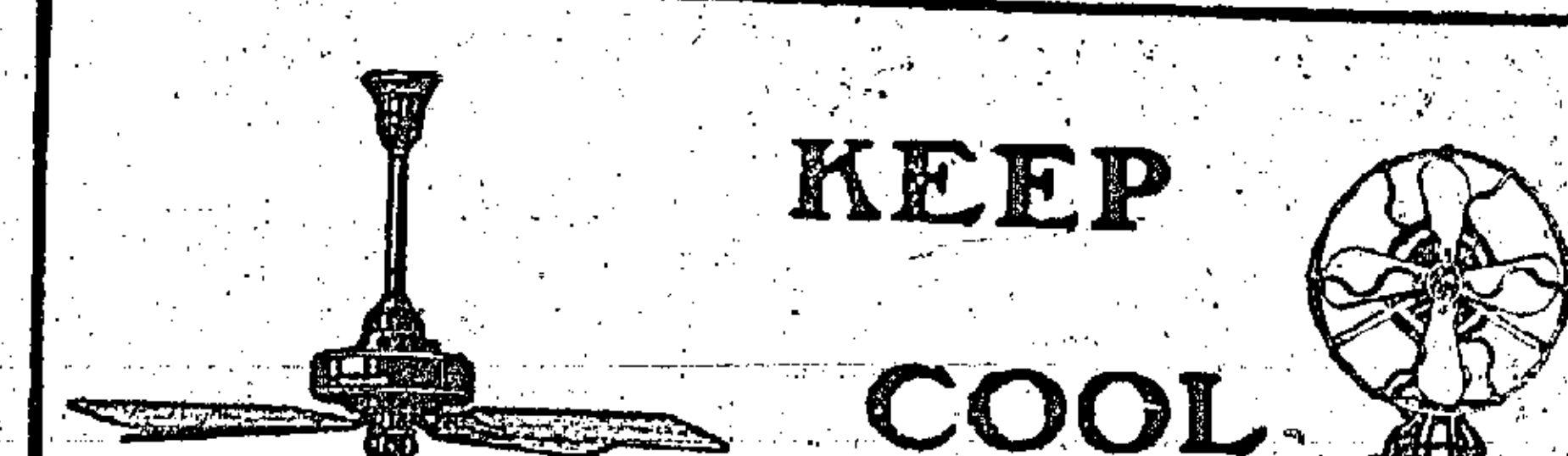
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\$10.00 \$12.00 \$13.50 AND \$15.00

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LANE, CRAWFORD

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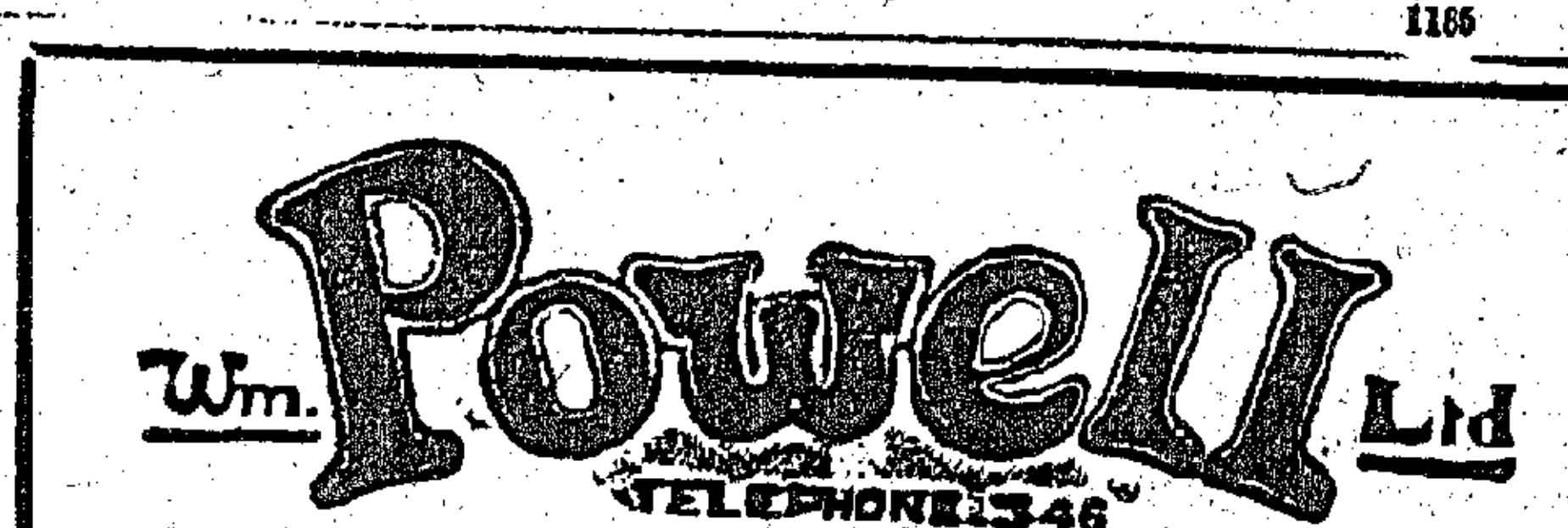
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SODA MERCHANTS, IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS OF

Caustic Soda, Soda Ash, Murate of Ammonia, Silicate of Soda, Refined Bicarbonate of Soda, Mineral Water, and Soda Crystal, Bleaching Powder, Sulphur Acid, Sulphate of Ammonia, etc., etc.

ALWAYS IN STOCK.

No. 32, Des Vaux Road, WEST, HONGKONG.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

BANK HOLIDAY.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 5 of 1912, the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on MONDAY, the 5th August, Hongkong, 31st July, 1918. [2273]

NOTICE.

THIS is to advise that Mr. H. E. PRICE, late of our Canton Office, is no longer in the employ of this company. BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO CO., LTD. [2230]

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

THE HONGKONG AND CHINA PRODUCE EXPORT CO., have this day REMOVED to 14A, DES VOUX ROAD, CENTRAL, First Floor (above Wiseman's). [2291]

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND OF ONE DOLLAR (\$1) per Share for account 1918 will be Payable on THURSDAY, the 15th August, 1918. Shareholders are requested to apply for Dividend Warrants at the Company's Office, 5th George's Buildings, Hongkong.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED on SATURDAY, the 10th August, 1918 to THURSDAY, 15th August, 1918, both days inclusive. SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 30th July, 1918. [2275]

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD. (Incorporated in the United Kingdom.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an INTERIM DIVIDEND OF SEVEN PENCE per Share for the year ending 31st December, 1918, has been declared.

The DIVIDEND will be Payable on and after WEDNESDAY the 21st day of August, 1918, to Shareholders on the Register on WEDNESDAY, the 21st day of August, 1918, and will be paid to Shareholders on the Colonial (Hongkong) Register at the exchange rate of 2/6 per dollar. By Order of the Board, W. E. ROBERTS, Secretary. Hongkong, 26th July, 1918. [2267]

THE STEAM LAUNDRY CO., LTD.

THE SIXTEENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Office of Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G., on FRIDAY, 9th August, 1918, at 12.30 P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors with a Statement of Accounts to 31st May 1918.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 3rd August to the 10th August, both days inclusive. C. BERNARD BROWN, Secretary. Hongkong, 27th July, 1918. [2263]

THE DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL.

NEXT TERM begins on MONDAY, September 9th, 1918.

Parents and New Scholars can see the Headmaster on September 7th and 8th, from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

The Prospectus and Syllabus for 1918-1919 can be obtained now on application to the School. REV. W. T. FEATHERSTONE, M.A. (Oxon.), Headmaster. [2266]

WANTED.

FOR HOTEL in Shanghai, Experienced BOOKKEEPER, unmarried. Board and Lodging free. Reply stating age, qualification and references to—Box 2274, Care of "Daily Press" Office. [2274]

WANTED.

LADY LEAVING THE COLONY can thoroughly recommend Baby Amah. Good worker and reliable in every way. Apply to—Box 247, c/o "Daily Press" Office.

WANTED.

PIANO, preferably Baby Grand. Good make and condition essential. Full particulars to—Box No. 2257, Care of "Daily Press" Office. [2257]

WANTED.

EXPERIENCED CHINESE STORE KEEPER. Apply in own writing, with copies of references, stating age, experience and salary required, to—W. S. BAILEY & Co., Ltd. [2258]

G. R. NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or elchin desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Passports or Identification papers. All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION or PERSONS ORDINANCE 1918.

Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations. The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

AUCTIONS

G. R. PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS and CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on TUESDAY, the 6th day of August, 1918, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Battery Street, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sub.	Boundary Measurements (Approximate)	Containing	Annual Rent	Upset Price
Regd. No.	Locality	Acres	Sq. Feet	
1	Lot 100, Battery Street, between Victoria Road and the Battery	0.5	2,520	11,330

G. R. PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS and CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on TUESDAY, the 6th day of August, 1918, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Robinson Path, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sub.	Boundary Measurements (Approximate)	Containing	Annual Rent	Upset Price
Regd. No.	Locality	Acres	Sq. Feet	
1	Lot 100, Robinson Path, between the Battery and the Victoria Road	0.5	2,520	11,330

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

A GODOWN. Central District. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. [2261]

TO LET.

FURNISHED HOUSE To Be Let at the PEAK for a year. Four Bed-rooms, Five Bath-rooms, Grass Tennis Court. Apply—E. POTTER, Prince's Building. [2232]

TO LET.

SPEND your Holiday at Maple Bay (38 miles from Victoria, B.C., and four miles from Duncan Station). ROOMS To Let with Board in House on Sea. Bathing, Boating and excellent food, flat fish and salmon fishing within stone's throw. Apply—M. R. SPRINGETT, Maple Bay, B.C., Canada. [2226]

TO LET.

COMMODOUS and Centrally Situated NEW OFFICES, with lift, in the old Mercantile Bank Buildings, corner of Queen's Road Central and Lee Hom Street. Also in Canton House, No. 31, Shamonee, British Consulate. For rent and further particulars apply to—DAVID EASEON & Co., Ltd., 8A, Des Voux Road. [2217]

TO LET.

HOUSES on Shamonee, Canton. No. 67, THE PEAK, LUTHERLEIGH. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. [22]

TO LET.

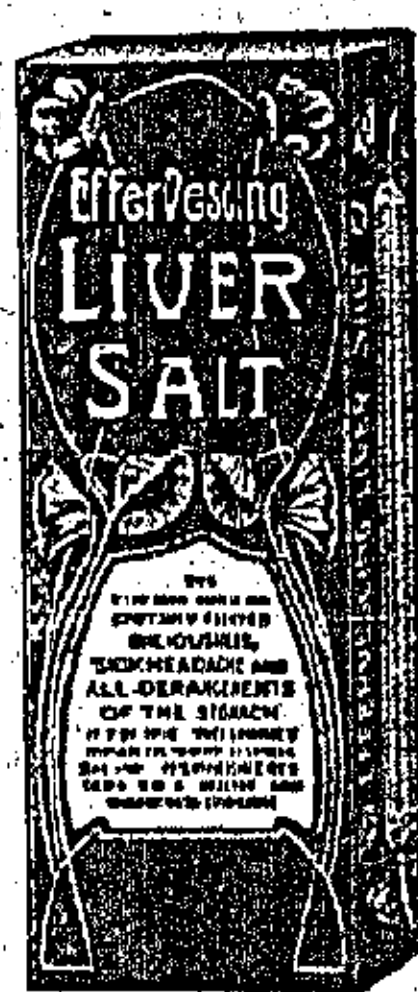
No. 7, STEWART TERRACE, No. 32 THE PEAK. Apply to—LUNSTEAD & DAVIS, 2nd Floor Alexandra Buildings. [2088]

TO LET.

A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon. Apply to—HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd., Alexandra Buildings. [2000]

INTIMATION

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A SAFE AND GENTLE

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[18]

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VOUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 13, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 1st AUGUST, 1918.

JAPAN AND SIBERIA.

THE decision of the Japanese Government to intervene in Siberia within a week or two of announcing diametrically opposite intentions must not be regarded

as indicative of any vacillation on the part of our Far Eastern Ally. It will be remembered that it was stated by a Minister in the last session of the Diet that in no circumstances would the Japanese Government take independent action; that is to say, it would not act except in conjunction with the other Powers or with their approval. The great obstacle to joint action was the attitude of the United States, which regarded any attempt to interfere in the settlement of Russia's internal affairs as fraught with danger. Recent developments, however, have modified this view, and the United States Government has now invited Japan to dispatch a force to Eastern Siberia. The object of the United States is, no doubt, to prevent any calamity befalling the Czech Slovaks, who acted primarily, in self-defence. There was a danger that they would be deprived of their arms, and even of their liberty, by the Bolsheviks, under pressure of the German Government. The Allies were thus placed in a difficult position. While it was greatly in the interests of the Allies that the German prisoners should be disarmed, it was almost equally in their interests that the Czech Slovaks should not be disarmed, since they were deserters from the Central Powers and had expressed their determination to fight on the side of the Allies. Gradually they made their way eastward in separate bands, their object being to get out of Russia by the only route possible. They met with opposition on the way from the Bolshevik Red Guards and finally they were compelled to fight. They proved superior to

their opponents and their success led to wider action, finally resulting in the virtual occupation of Vladivostok and the destruction of Bolshevik influence there. Having arrived at this point the difficulty was to know what to do next. Were the Czech Slovaks to be allowed to remain in charge? Their desire was to go to the Italian or the Franco-Belgian front, but their withdrawal would plunge Vladivostok again into a state of chaos. Moreover, it was freely rumoured that it was under the encouragement of the Allies that the Czech Slovaks took possession of Vladivostok, and the Bolsheviks might use this as a justification for arming the prisoners who were hostile to the Allies and seeking to cut up the Czech-Slovak forces. Some such reasoning as this seems to have actuated the Allies and the United States in deciding that an expedition must be sent to Vladivostok. In making Japan to provide the troops for that expedition they were simply following the path of least resistance, for Japan, it was known, was quite ready and willing to send troops. The United States, however, was not prepared to go any further than Vladivostok. That city having already fallen into pro-Ally hands, it was at least politic that it should remain in their hands, provided that ample evidence were offered the Russians that nothing like a permanent occupation was contemplated. As for Japan, it is evident from the reports in the Japanese papers that she was prepared to go much further than the United States thought prudent. A rather extensive scheme seems to have been prepared, which would have taken the expedition far to the west of Vladivostok. Even in Japan, however, such an adventure was not without its opponents. The Diplomatic Advisory Council, composed of the Ministers of State and representatives of the political parties, to whom the scheme was submitted by the Government, expressed disapproval of it. Only rumours are available to show on what grounds the opposition was based, but, apparently, they were economic. The original plan of the Government was thus reduced to its present dimensions, indignantly described by a Japanese General as "a mere route march." In any case, it appears certain that the United States Government would not have consented to the original scheme. It has been already noted that public feeling in Japan is divided on the question of intervention in Siberia. Those who opposed it from the first are averse from it in any shape or form, while those who have always been eager for intervention are not satisfied with the present plan. A special session of the Japanese Diet is to be held for voting the funds required, and no doubt more will be heard then as to the ultimate objects of the expedition.

Among those who left the Colony yesterday were the Rev. and Mrs. W. T. Featherstone. Two cases of bubonic plague and one case of diphtheria were notified in the Colony on Tuesday. Monday next being a public holiday all the exchange banks will be closed for the transaction of public business.

"THE SOUL OF A NATION" [BY OWEN SEAMAN.] The little things of which we lately chattered—The dearth of taxis or the dawn of spring—Themes we discussed as though they really mattered, Like rationed meat or raiders on the wing;—How thin it seems to-day, this vacant prattle, Drowned by the thunder rolling in the West, Voice of the great arbitrament of battle That puts our temper to the final test. Thither our eyes are turned, our hearts are straining, Where those we love, whose courage laughs at fear, Amid the storm of steel around them raining, Go to their death for all we hold most dear. New-born of this supremest hour of trial, In quiet confidence shall be our strength, Fixed on a faith that will not take denial Nor doubt that we have found our soul at length. O England, staunch of nerve and strong of sinew, Best when you face the odds and stand at bay, Now show a watching world what stuff is in you! Now make your soldiers proud of you to-day! —Punch.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—The jocular remark made by the Puisne Judge with regard to the Government starting a poultry farm, which was reported in a recent issue of your paper, might well be considered by members of the Legislative Council.

In no part of the world, probably, are more fowls kept, and certainly in no part of the world is the average fowl and breakfast egg of such a low standard. The keeping of high-class poultry undoubtedly received a flip from the poultry show, since when many pens of birds have been imported. This, however, can only be done by people of means.

The Experimental Poultry Farm, also, has enabled many to acquire eggs, which in the ordinary course will result in many possessing thorough-bred fowls.

Again, however, it is not everyone who can afford to pay from \$10 to \$20 for a sitting of eggs. Doubtless the proprietors are compelled to charge a high figure to reimburse themselves what must have been a considerable outlay.

In a Colony such as this, where of necessity European ladies have so little to occupy them, the opportunity of taking up a useful hobby would be eagerly welcomed. In many other Colonies their Governments maintain extensive farms, notably in Australia, Canada and South Africa, and have, by the fact that they can run without considering profits, brought good stock within the reach of everyone, and the results have been wonderful.

Private enterprise doubtless can do, and is doing, much, but, as I have pointed out, only a limited few benefit. To start things on a scale to be of real benefit to the community at large would require comparatively little money and in a very short time the concern would be self-supporting.

I trust that having, through your kindness, endeavoured to bring the matter to their notice that some member of the Council will give it serious consideration. I am convinced that if the suggestion were placed before the Council there would be a large majority in its favour.

It is surprising that the production of so important a part of our diet should have been so neglected.

I must thank you for having allowed me to occupy so much of your space, but if by so doing I have induced someone in a position to take this matter up and push it, both you and I will have earned the gratitude of the Colony. Yours faithfully, DORKING.

RELIEF OF PRISONERS OF WAR.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—Once again I ask leave to address, through your courtesy, an appeal as to next Sunday's collections to the congregation and friends of Union Church and any others who may wish to take the opportunity afforded by the fourth anniversary of our country's declaration of war. The offerings for the day will go to the Prisoners of War Relief Fund. We are assured that the need was never more urgent, and I am confident that, as on former occasions, a generous response will be made. Donations may be sent to the Church Treasurer, Mr. A. S. D. Cousland, care of Messrs. A. Ross & Co.—Yours, etc., J. KIRK MACONACHIE.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1918.

MILLIONAIRE PRIVATE.

A despatch from Winnipeg states that Mr. Joseph Richardson, a millionaire of Winnipeg, and president or director of half-a-dozen grain handling firms in Western Canada, has been informed by Judge Haggart that his interests are not vital enough to warrant his exemption from military service, and that on August 1st he must join up as a private soldier.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

THE VLADIVOSTOK EXPEDITION.

PEKING, July 30th. The Government appropriates \$100,000 to finance the expedition to Vladivostok. General Semenov's force is resting in Chinese territory.

CHINA'S CONGRATULATIONS TO GENERALISSIMO FOCH.

The Premier has cabled congratulations to Generalissimo Foch from the Chinese Government.

"LOOK SEE"

HONGKONG'S NEW SUMMER ANNUAL.

At various times, we believe, Hongkong has had its pictorial weeklies dealing with matters of local interest in prose and verse, but never, so far as we remember, has it been blessed with a Summer Annual. The reason may be that the Hongkong Summer is not conducive to energy and enterprise. However, two of our literary enthusiasts—Messrs. A. Hicks and C. M. Wilson—have decided that we need something to lighten our dull moments. One would imagine from reading the reports of the proceedings before the Conscription Tribunal that few people in Hongkong have any dull moments in these days, but that by the way. The associate editors also want to dispel the prevailing gloom and depression. The method they have chosen to achieve their laudable intention is to give us a summer annual, and they are to be sincerely complimented both upon their enterprise and daring and also upon the excellent and amusing magazine which they have produced.

Not all the articles are devoted to local subjects. They embrace a considerably wider field, and, while of course, local allusions are numerous and we have a translation from the "Book of Ham" dealing with that never-failing source of controversy—the famous Conscription Ordinance—there is fare provided to suit all tastes. The pages are profusely illustrated. The coloured frontispiece is admirably executed, and is typical of all summer annuals, whether they hail from Quarry Bay or Brighton. There is no need to deal with the contents of the volume in detail. The editors have been fortunate in enlisting the co-operation of many writers of ability, and with a number of verses by "E.W.H.," "G.J.," Roland Braddell, and others, whose work is well-known to residents here, we think it may fairly be said that the editors' hope will be realised that the Annual will meet with public appreciation.

We warmly recommend the magazine to the public, not only because the editors propose to give a considerable portion of the proceeds from the sale to War Charities, but because it is well worth the dollar at which it is offered. It will be on sale this morning and may be obtained from all booksellers.

THE MAIDEN VOYAGE OF THE SS. "NANKING."

The Nanking, Capt. T. H. Dobson, has just completed her maiden voyage across the Pacific. She left San Francisco on July 2nd, three and a half days behind the Ecuador of the Pacific Mail line, and reached Yokohama a day ahead and proved her entire seaworthiness.

The Nanking was formerly the str. Congress, built in 1916 for the Pacific Coast Steamship Co. to ply between Vancouver, Victoria, Seattle, and Los Angeles and intervening ports. She is an oil-burner and can do 18 knots, though her speed will be kept down to that of the China. The Nanking is 480-ft. in length, 48-ft. beam; gross tonnage 15,000; cargo capacity, 4,500 tons. The passenger accommodation provides for 130 first-class, 100 second-class, and 500 steerage.

There are a number of one-berth rooms and also baths, each suite being finished in a different colour, hardwood, mahogany, "white mahogany," bird's-eye maple, etc. The public rooms are spacious and tastefully decorated. Over the dining room on the promenade deck is a large "observation room" or salon and reading-room combined, and amidships, on deck, is a large wind shelter alcove built across the ship's deck.

With its "fleet" now increased to two ships, the China Mail Steamship Co. will have a trans-Pacific sailing every five weeks.

THE WAR.

THE STRUGGLE IN THE SALIENT. GERMANS HEAVILY COUNTER-ATTACKING.

ALLIES FACED BY NUMERICALLY SUPERIOR ENEMY.

MUNITIONS EXPLOSION IN JAPAN.

AUSTRIA READY FOR HONOURABLE PEACE.

OPERATIONS IN PALESTINE.

Franco-Belgian front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

AUSTRALIANS ENTER ENEMY POSITIONS.

London, July 30th.
1.00 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We captured a few prisoners in a successful raid in the neighbourhood of Ayette.

Australian patrols entered enemy positions about Merris, and captured 40 prisoners.

There was hostile gas-shelling north-westward of Albert.

AERIAL ACTIVITIES.

London, July 30th.
10.25 p.m.

Despite the low clouds yesterday, we dropped 10 tons of bombs on dumps, railway stations and billets at Douai, Armentières, Bapaume and Chaulnes.

There was some early morning fighting. We brought down nine aeroplanes.

Four British machines are missing. At night we bombed Bapaume and active batteries northward of the Somme.

All our machines returned.

LATEST CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT.

AMERICANS DRIVE GERMANS HELTER-SKELTER.

London, July 30th.
2.15 p.m.

Reuters' Correspondent at American Headquarters, telegraphing last evening, deals with the hard fighting leading up to the final capture of Serisy by the Americans, who also captured Seringes and Roncheres.

The fight for Serisy resolved itself into a fierce struggle with the Fourth Guards Division, one of the crack divisions of the German Army. The Guards swept down the hill when the Americans were reorganising their line. The Germans, who were all picked and fresh men, were determined to strike terror into the hated Yankees, with whom this was their first engagement. The Americans, overborne by the vast weight of numbers, gave ground foot by foot to the brink of the Ourcq, but fiercely recoiled and drove the Germans helter-skelter at the point of the bayonet from the ruins of the village.

The Germans suffered fearful losses, their dead lying in heaps on all parts of the field.

GERMAN EXPLANATION OF RETREAT.

Amsterdam, July 30th.

A Berlin semi-official message states:—The removal of our front in the neighbourhood of Fere-en-Tardenois and Villet-Tardenois was carried out at night, but only after the thorough destruction of everything likely to be useful to the enemy, who at first did not observe it.

WHY THE ENEMY ATTACK WAS STOPPED!

The Daily Express Correspondent at The Hague states the German newspapers are painfully endeavouring to convince the public that everything is going well. They take the line that the object of the offensive was not to gain ground but to destroy the enemy forces. When this was found impossible the attack was stopped in order to spare the troops, while the enemy was allowed to sacrifice his troops without result.

GERMAN HEADQUARTERS DIVIDED.

The newspapers refer to the "ungrateful" attacks upon General Hindenburg, whereas General Ludendorff is not criticised. Apparently Headquarters is divided into two parties.

THE GERMANS' STRENGTH.

London, July 30th.
3.05 p.m.

The Germans so far have engaged 71 divisions in the Marne salient.

Expert opinion in London discounts any idea of the possibility of rounding up the Germans in the salient, owing to the fact that the Allies there are faced by a numerically superior enemy.

The Germans are now heavily counter-attacking.

NOTHING.

Paris, July 30th.

A communiqué states there was nothing to report at night-time north of the Marne.

NO RELAXATION OF AMERICAN EFFORT.

Washington, July 30th.

Mr. Baker, War Secretary, states, regarding the American success on the Western Front, that while it is, of course, a cause for rejoicing, it is in no way justifies any relaxation of the American efforts. It rather means that the efforts must be redoubled.

BRITISH ON TWO SIDES OF SALIENT.

London, July 30th.
7.40 a.m.

The capture of the formidable Butte-de-Chalmont, where once it was expected the Germans would be able to stand, shows that the German retreat has in nowise ended. It is now even doubtful whether the enemy is able to hold the Vesle line, for the Allied pressure on the two pivots of defence, namely, south of Soissons and south of Rheims, is increasing.

In this connection the communiqué's mention of the Scots at Buzancy, south of Soissons, is interesting as showing that the British are now engaged on the western as well as the eastern side of the salient. Should this pivoted position go there is still a possibility of the retreat becoming a disaster. Hence the Germans are desperately defending the triangular bastion between Soissons-Oulchy-Aisne, which General Mangin is hammering at from the west, while General Degoutte is advancing northwards from Fere and endeavouring to turn it.

EARLIER CABLES.

A BRILLIANT ACTION.

Paris, July 30th.

A communiqué states:—During the day there was very violent fighting on the whole front north of the Marne. The enemy, whose resistance has strongly increased, disputed every foot of ground and attempted to drive us back by numerous counter-attacks.

We repulsed all assaults and made further advance. On the outskirts of the village Buzancy the Scottish troops captured the park and chateau and maintained their positions, despite repeated German assaults.

East of Plesseshulu and Oulchy-le-Chateau, we passed the Chateau Thierry road, and captured Grand-Rozoy and Cugny, also Butte-de-Chalmont, after a brilliant action, capturing 450 prisoners.

North of Fere-en-Tardenois we extended our gains and entered Serisy. Further south, Roncheres fell into our hands.

FRENCH GAIN GROUND.

On the right we passed the Dormans—Rheims road south of Villers—Eggon and gained ground west of Bligny and St. Euphrase.

A German attack in the Champagne region south of Mont Sanson failed.

AMERICANS IN SEVERE FIGHTING.

London, July 30th.
2.30 a.m.

An American official report states:—There was severe fighting beyond the Ourcq.

Serisy, after changing hands four times, remains in our possession.

GERMAN REPORT.

London, July 29th.
10.50 p.m.

A wireless German evening report states:—Seven attacks on our new positions westward of Fere-en-Tardenois failed sanguinarily.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH HAVAS AGENCY.]

ALLIES TOO FAST FOR GERMANS.

London, July 30th.
8.35 p.m.

A Havas Agency message states:—The Germans yesterday threw in troops from their best regiments to dispute the ground with the Allied tide.

Violent counter-attacks were made along the whole front north of the Marne, but the Allied forces surged forward and made very important captures of ground.

It seems as if during the last few days the Allies have been driving ahead too fast for the Germans, who had no time for carrying out their plans for destroying stores and constructing new defences.

The revival of the enemy's desperate resistance is probably due to the desire to gain time for the better execution of measures necessary to protect their retreat, but the Allied Armies will prove the stronger and impose their will.

EARLIER CABLES.

ENEMY RETREAT IN FULL SWING.

Paris, July 30th.

The German retreat is in full swing. Along the line the enemy is pressing in the north.

Breaking the rearguard resistance, Generalissimo Foch's victorious troops crossed the Ourcq yesterday and occupied Fere-en-Tardenois, a very important road junction.

Ever since the beginning of the German retreat the Tanks have done remarkable work. After breaking in the enemy front lines and preparing a way for the advance of the infantry, the Tanks throughout continued to exploit the success gained. Some even attacked the enemy artillery batteries and killed the gunners, thus permitting the advancing infantry to capture many guns.

GIGANTIC OFFENSIVE FAILS.

The Germans, in retreating from the Marne, admit the collapse of the gigantic offensive they opened on July 15th. This was to have cut the French armies in two and was to be followed by an advance on Paris. In it one million men were employed by the enemy.

In whatever way General Ludendorff explains this retreat to the German public, it was imposed on him by the victorious pressure of the Allied forces operating between Soissons and Rheims. An order had been given the German troops to resist at all costs.

The High Command attached great importance to keeping and supporting the positions on the River Marne, which would have eventually set up a fresh attack from the starting point. Evidence of this is to be found in the following document found on an officer prisoner belonging to the 42nd Infantry Division:—"The positions north of the river must be defended and kept at all costs. Every position abandoned will be immediately recaptured. The High Command attaches the greatest importance to the possession of the heights commanding the passages of the Marne."

The Near East.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PALESTINE CAMPAIGN. SIKHS SUCCESSFUL RAIDS.

London, July 29th.
9.45 p.m.

A Palestine official report states:—In the coastal sector the Sikhs successfully raided, capturing prisoners and material and inflicting losses.

Eastward of the Jordan Indian cavalry raided a post, killing and capturing prisoners.

The enemy's aeroplanes bombed camps at Amman, Saunet, and Nimrin.

The Arabs surprised a Turkish detachment in southern Hedjaz, killing or capturing the garrison.

Italian front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ITALIAN FRONT.

AUSTRIAN REPORT.

London, July 29th.
10.50 p.m.

A wireless Austrian official report states:—In Albania the enemy's counter-pressure has strengthened. Five violent enemy attacks in the Semeni salient broke down sanguinarily.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

AUSTRIAN PREMIER'S POLICY.

Amsterdam, July 30th.

In the Upper House of the Reichsrat, the new Premier, Baron Hussarik, in stating his policy, said that Austria was ready at any time to make an honourable peace, but so long as her enemies adopted the standpoint of a one-sided dictation of terms there was nothing to do but to continue the war with all resoluteness and intensity. (Loud applause.)

DEATH OF LORD LICHFIELD.

London, July 30th.

The body of Lord Lichfield was found in the river near deceased's Staffordshire residence, with a gun-shot wound in the head.

DEATH OF TURKISH AMBASSADOR TO BERLIN.

Amsterdam, July 30th.

The death is announced of Hakkı Pasha, Turkish Ambassador to Berlin.

FRESH GERMAN BARBARITY EXPECTED.

London, July 30th.

The question whether Germany is contemplating some fresh barbarous innovation is suggested by persistent allegations that the British are using unlawful bullets. Germany recently protested to the British Government concerning this matter, and the Foreign Office's reply showed that the protest was absolutely unjustified. The British Government knows that a German accusation of this kind is usually advanced as an excuse for some prepared concerted violation of the laws and customs of war, and the Foreign Office notified Germany that any such fresh outrage would be met by prompt and stern reprisals.

DECREASING SUBMARINE MENACE.

London, July 30th.

In the House of Commons, Sir Eric Geddes stated that British, Allied and Neutral shipping completions during the half-year ending June 30th balanced the shipping losses of all kinds during the same period.

Sir Eric Geddes said the enemy submarines now found it too dangerous to work inshore, and were again going far out. The number of ships damaged, as well as the sinkings, was declining. So far Great Britain had preponderantly borne the burden of the fight against the submarines, but the flow of anti-submarine craft from the United States would ere long become a formidable torrent, which will enable Great Britain to divert some of her resources from naval to mercantile construction.

MUNITION EXPLOSION IN JAPAN.

SHIMONOSEKI, July 30th.

A large quantity of ammunition exploded with terrific force on a pier during transshipment.

It is feared that many fatalities have resulted.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITAIN'S MIGHTY WAR EFFORT.

AN ARMY OF EIGHT MILLION MEN.

London, July 30th.

Earl Curzon, speaking at a banquet in Gray's Inn, said that at the beginning of the fifth year of the war the purpose of the nation and the Government showed no weakening, abatement or modification. He believed that in the meetings of the Imperial War Cabinet lay the solution of problems which had bewildered them for years. This machinery must now take a more permanent shape, and the sister nations of the Empire must continue to have a voice in the great decisions of the Council Chamber, just as their soldiers participated in the decisions in the field. Events during the past fortnight were probably destined to exercise an influence on the whole course of the campaign not less remarkable than the battle of the Marne in 1914.

Earl Curzon, continuing, emphasized particularly the enemy's failure, his loss of initiative, and the importance of the blow inflicted upon the morale and prestige of the enemy troops. Although it was early to imagine the enemy was beaten, the Allied forces had found a genius in Generalissimo Foch.

Earl Curzon described the suddenness of the American entry into the fields of France as electric, reducing the enemy's superiority to an equality, while the moral value of the enemy's ultimate numerical inferiority would be cumulative as time passed. Great Britain during the war had been clothier, banker, almoner and universal provider to all the Allies. The supreme efforts in France would have been impossible except for us, therefore, in view of our industrial services, it was remarkable our armies were not so small, but that they were so large.

Sir Robert Borden reaffirmed Canada's determination, despite all her sacrifices, to fight to a finish and justifying her entry into the war.

General Smuts paid a tribute to Great Britain's mighty efforts, which had not been given sufficient publicity. During the four years she had raised 8,000,000 men. Great Britain had the greatest army in the field. Of all the Allies she was the only country which in war time had increased her food-producing capacity. Her achievements had been done silently, with characteristic calmness and dignity, and the country had become the mainstay of the whole Allied resistance. It was impossible to predict the future, but whatever intervened we were determined to preserve the British Empire and the civilization of the world.

COTTON OPERATIVES' STRIKE.

London, July 29th.

The Press Bureau states:—The Minister of Munitions announces that work has been generally resumed at Birmingham and Coventry. He is immediately appointing a Committee of Enquiry.

THE MERLIMAU DECISION.

DECISION BENEFICIAL TO COMPANIES.

London, July 30th.

The Rubber Share Brokers' Association states that the Merlimau decision favouring the Company's claim against the Revenue Authorities, gives the Merlimau Company a statutory ten per cent. on "recurring" expenditure in development since the inception of the Company. It is estimated that the Merlimau Company will then save £25,000 upon £250,000. Every Company which is affected by the Vallambrosa decision for income-tax purposes will benefit similarly to the Merlimau Company if the decision is upheld.

GOVERNMENT'S IRISH POLICY.

MR. DILLON'S MOTION REJECTED.

London, July 29th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Dillon, moving his motion condemning the Government's Irish policy as alienating and exasperating the Irish people, declared that the Irish were holding back from the year because they believed the Government was determined to break faith with Ireland and that conscription was imposed upon Ireland in order to torpedo "Home Rule."

Mr. Dillon proposed that the Irish question be referred to a jury of Americans appointed by President Wilson.

Mr. Shortt, in replying, declared that Ireland was now infinitely more quiet since the Sinn Féin leaders had been removed from harm's way. The Authorities had discovered an elaborate military system in parts of Ireland, including instructions to the people how to destroy the communications and to prevent the movements of troops, and that explosives had secretly been brought from Glasgow. The Government had been forced to take strong measures, and he declared that the Nationalist members themselves were to blame for the situation. The Nationalists, instead of taking Sinn Féin by the throat, tried to go one better. They had not helped Viscount French, who wanted to avoid conscription.

Mr. Shortt asserted that Mr. Dillon would have adopted the same measures if he had been in his (Mr. Shortt's) shoes. The general feeling in Ireland had vastly improved, and the seditious feeling had largely disappeared. He hoped to restore that state of feeling which would make Home Rule not only possible, but desired by substantially everyone in Great Britain. Irishmen had only themselves to blame if they rendered this impossible.

Mr. Asquith said he believed nothing had been done as regards the suggestions to consult the leading Dominion's statesmen in England with a view of arriving at a solution. Moreover, he appreciated that the Dominions' representatives might be reluctant to undertake any responsibility concerning the matter. The Irish question could not be submitted to President Wilson.

Concluding, Mr. Asquith emphasised the necessity to the Empire and Allies of finding an ultimate settlement.

Mr. Bonar Law emphasised that the real difficulty was not between Englishmen and Irishmen, but between Irishmen and Irishmen. The same right of self-determination claimed by the Nationalists could be claimed by the Ulstermen, and until Mr. Dillon was prepared to publicly recognise that difficulty settlement was impossible. Mr. Dillon himself admitted that the majority of the people in Ireland sided with the Germans. How, therefore, could Home Rule be given under these circumstances? He believed that not merely the Irishmen in the trenches but Irishmen throughout the world who were willing to fight for liberty would ask whether the men who held back in this the greatest struggle in the world's history really represented the race for which they were fighting and for which they were willing to die.

Mr. Dillon's motion was rejected by 245 votes to 106.

MUNITION WORKERS RESUME.

London, July 29th.

The Wigan strike, owing to a dispute as to whether the recent 25 per cent. advance in wages was on the present or pre-war wages basis, has been settled. It has been agreed that 25 per cent. advance in wages be paid on the current wages.

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, July 29th.

The silver market is quiet.

WORLD'S RIVET RECORD.

At Messrs. Workman, Clark & Company's shipbuilding yard, Belfast, on June 5th, John Moir eclipsed the world's riveting record, driving in 11,200 rivets on the double bottom floor of a standard ship in nine hours. Previous best figures were 7,841, put up by John Lowry at Messrs. Harland & Wolff's Belfast establishment. In the seventh hour Moir beat his own world's record of last week of putting in 1,115 rivets an hour by 24. His best minute's work was 26 rivets.

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SANDAKAN	"MAISANG"	Sat., 3rd Aug., Noon.
SHANGHAI	"WINGSANG"	Tues., 6th Aug., 7 a.m.
HAIPHONG	"TAKSANG"	Tues., 6th Aug., 7 a.m.
MANILA	"LOONGSANG"	Fri., 9th Aug., 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE:—This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war, but at present a monthly service is maintained with Calcutta by the s.s. "KWAISANG" and "VITIM." Calling at Singapore and Penang. The former vessel has excellent passenger accommodation, is fitted with Electric Light and Fans, and carries a fully qualified Surgeon.

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THE MAN OF THE HOUR IN SIBERIA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

PEKING, July 18th.

Events have moved quickly in Siberia during the past few weeks, and the hope which has been cherished very strongly that order may be restored out of chaos may soon be realised. This undoubtedly has been very largely due to the patriotism of those Czech-Slovak prisoners-of-war, most of whom gladly surrendered to the Russian armies in the early days of war. Their first motive was, of course, to get away from Russia and join the Allies against their former rulers, and had they been allowed to do this, as were the Irredentists, Bolshevik misrule might still be dominating Siberia. But the Bolsheviks seem to have a fatal faculty for doing the wrong thing. At any rate, it so happened that a large body of Czech-Slovaks eastward bound by rail from Russia found themselves surrounded by forces led by Austro-Germans at Irkutsk. Although practically unarmed, they drove off their would-be captors, and securing arms as they proceeded, they reached Vladivostok, where they put the Bolshevik régime out of action. A number had remained at Irkutsk in order to secure the Siberian line, and at present the Czech-Slovaks are the dominating element in Siberia, though still faced with foes who considerably outnumber them. They are not without friends, however. General Semenov, the Siberian Cossack leader, who has proved a thorn in the side of the Siberian Bolsheviks, has detached part of his forces to assist in maintaining the line of communication, and new Czech-Slovaks and General Horvath have come to an understanding. General Horvath, who is the Russian administrator of the Chinese Eastern Railway, is a dominant personality in this part of the world. He was advised by leading Russians temporarily residing in Harbin to improve the situation created by the Czech-Slovaks and establish a Siberian Government at Vladivostok, which, it was hoped, would co-operate with the Siberian Government set up at Omsk. Accordingly, he issued a proclamation stating that a Siberian Government had been established under his administration, but the Allied Ministers disapproved of this course, though they may later see reason to alter their decision. The Socialist organisations seem to have the ear of the Consular Body at Vladivostok. Thus the matter stands at present.

General Horvath explained his position in an interview at Godegovo, where his headquarters are, and where negotiations are being conducted with the Czechs. He said: "When Nikolsk fell (to the Czech-Slovaks) I found myself forced to choose between a Socialist Siberian Government and according to urgent requests to form this Government by various influential party leaders temporarily domiciled in Harbin. Feeling that my country's interests would best be served thereby, I adopted the latter course. The position now is: We are endeavouring to widen our control while the Socialists are trying to take the power into their own hands. The position is somewhat difficult, as the Consular body at Vladivostok have adopted a strange attitude as a consequence of which, perhaps, the Allied Ministers at Peking have up to the present not supported our Government. It is difficult to understand why, as we are willing to facilitate the military movements of the Czech-Slovaks in every way and carry out any policy beneficial to the Allies with which Russian interests in no wise conflict. In proof of this we are not doing with Semenov what the Czech-Slovaks are doing elsewhere. On receiving the communication from the Ministers at Peking we replied on the above lines, after which nothing further was heard. The Allied Governments have recognised neither our nor the Socialist Siberian Government at Vladivostok, but the Vladivostok Consular Body has recognised the two Socialist organisations, namely, the Union of Zemstvos and the Municipal Council, which were elected at the time of the strongest revolutionary movement when the election was not free, and naturally the Siberian Government at Vladivostok took the fullest advantage of this opportunity when my proclamation was issued and Colonel Tolstoy, commander of the Soviet troops, issued a counter-proclamation saying: 'Do not listen to Horvath, as we are in touch with the Zemstvo and the Municipality, which are recognised by the Allies.' In short, the Allied Governments state that they are not interfering in Russia, while the Consular Body at Vladivostok is certainly interfering strongly. Our platform differs little from other Russian programmes. We desire to govern by the Zemstvos and municipal councils with the Constituent Assembly, but we want a strong disciplined army, not Bolshevik forces. We want to fight along with the Allies and to secure the controlling force in present conditions in Russia. We believe that Government under one responsible head offers the best chance of carrying out a definite policy. The outstanding danger for any new Government would be personal and party ambitions. This danger vanishes with personal government at the head. The Siberian Government has now drawn up a programme more Socialist than Kerensky's. They have set a collective body to manage the railways which Kerensky found impossible. Otherwise, the main difference between the Socialists and us is in that they are destructive and we are constructive. When anarchy is ripe party politics must be eliminated. This is only possible with a government such as we have created."

(Continued at foot of next column.)

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

A RETURNED BANISHEE IMPRISONED.

A Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of a quantity of iron, and also with returning from banishment before the expiration of his term.

Inspector Macdonald said he wished to withdraw the first charge, as there was insufficient evidence against defendant. As regards the second charge defendant had been banished after serving three months' imprisonment for theft.

Mr. J. R. Wood sentenced defendant to twelve months' hard labour and four hours' stocks.

A WIFE'S LIABILITY.

A young Chinese woman was charged, on remand, with being in unlawful possession of eighteen taels of opium.

Mr. W. B. Hind appeared for the defendant. It will be remembered that about a fortnight ago the Police raided a house in Lyndhurst Terrace, where defendant and her husband were living, and discovered the opium. Defendant, who was the only occupant of the house at the time, was arrested and produced before Mr. J. R. Wood. Mr. Hind submitted that a woman could not be held responsible for any action which might have been committed under the compulsion of her husband. In such a case she was only an instrument, and the right person to be charged was the husband. If, on the other hand, she committed a criminal offence, of her own accord and without the knowledge of her husband, then she was legally liable. Another point arose in connection with the same case. Was the woman married or not? According to her testimony, she was married to the man. But, argued Mr. Hind, even if she were a concubine she had, according to Chinese custom, the legal status of a wife. Mr. Hind offered to cite authorities on the point. The Magistrate reserved judgment for a week in order to consult certain legal authorities.

Yesterday, Mr. Wood informed Mr. Hind that he was deciding against the point raised. It seemed to him that the woman was in custody of the opium at the time it was found. Her husband was absent and had been absent for some hours. Defendant could not claim that she was unaware of the opium being in her house, or that it was not in her custody. He fined her \$500.

TYPHOON IN JAPAN.

SEVEREST KNOWN FOR MANY YEARS.

The typhoon which visited Japan on July 20th was the heaviest experienced in recent years (says the *Japan Chronicle*). Even in Kobe and neighbourhood, where the damage on land was comparatively small, the typhoon was as violent as that experienced in 1919, which was the most severe recorded since the establishment of meteorological observatories in this country. Naturally the greatest damage was done at or near the centre of the depression as it passed across the country. Kobe was outside the centre, and this accounted for the comparatively small damage done on land.

Though official particulars of the havoc done in various parts of the country by the typhoon are not yet available, investigations by the local authorities into the extent of damage in Hiogo prefecture have now been completed. The official investigations show that the number of houses completely destroyed is 283, while the houses partially destroyed numbered 222. In addition 11 houses were washed away. Two schools were partially demolished, and the number of godowns, sheds and other small buildings which collapsed was 427. Twenty-one persons were killed and 20 injured, while 20 are missing. Sixty-nine vessels of various sizes were sunk, and 130 other craft were severely damaged. These figures are for the Hiogo prefecture alone. In the municipal area of Kobe one house was blown down and two others were heavily damaged, but there were no casualties. In Hiogo Prefecture the greatest havoc was wrought on Awaji Island and in Banshu. The authorities estimate that the expenditure necessary for repairing public works damaged owing to the typhoon in this prefecture alone will amount to about ¥1,600,000.

The typhoon raged during a period of 36 hours, though as a rule twelve hours is the limit. The wind began to blow nearly from the north-east, but veered round to the south-east, and thence to the south, where it stayed longest, dying out in the west. In Kobe and neighbourhood the rainfall was comparatively small, but in Okayama it was terrific. In many places the fields have been washed out and the rice crop destroyed, while many houses have collapsed. In other places, where the effect of the salt wind was not counteracted by the rain, the fields for two or three miles distant appear to be blighted. Fortunately the rice was not high enough to be materially affected, but other crops have been destroyed. Even on the higher hills a couple of miles from the sea the fir trees look as if they had been burnt on one side, while the deciduous trees are shedding their leaves as if it were late in the autumn.

Later news indicates the possibility of an understanding being reached between Horvath's Government and the Czech-Slovaks which, in turn, may lead to closer co-operation with Omsk. The new Government in that centre has, like Horvath further east, differences with the Socialist elements, but cohesion among the more responsible sections of the population may enable the related governments to act promptly and decisively and give Siberia a stable administration which will secure a return of ordered government and place Siberia in a position to make good, thereby becoming a force in deciding the world issue.

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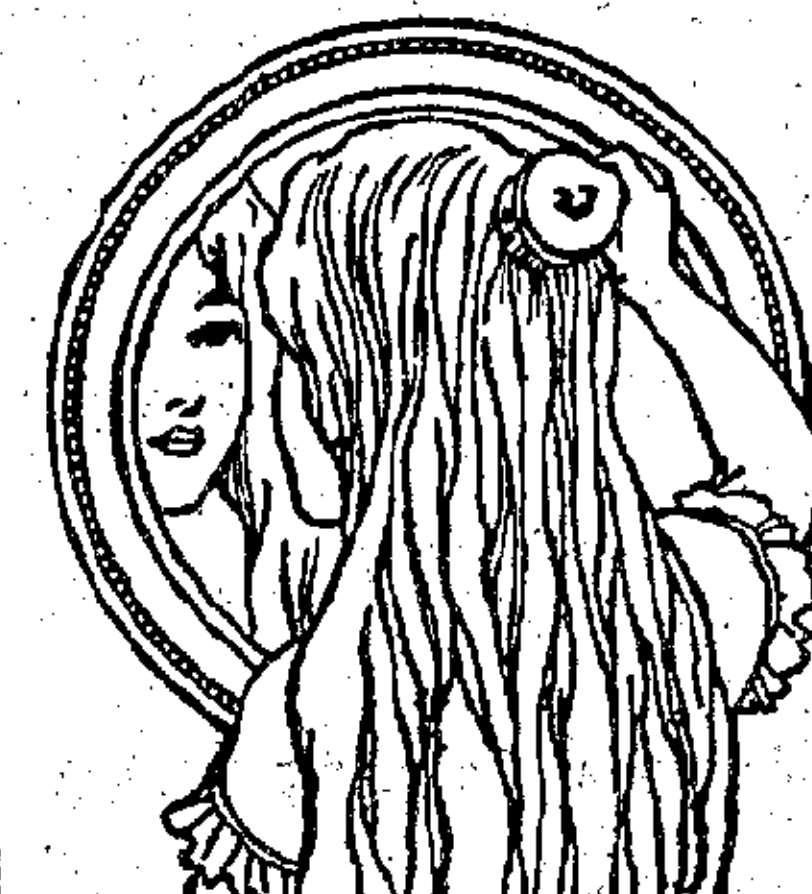


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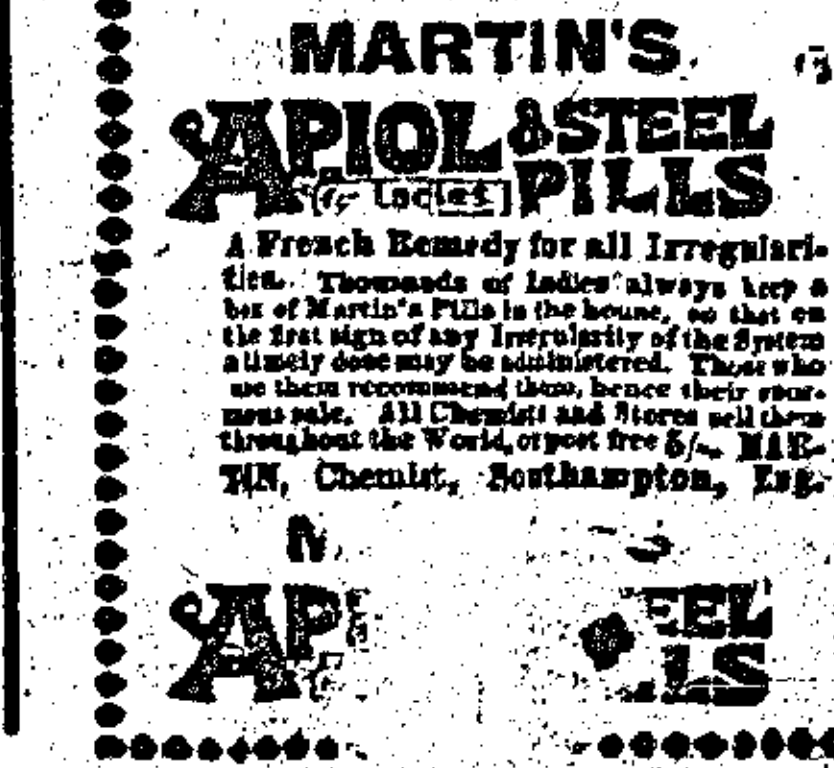


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Goods not cleared by the 6th Aug., 1918, at 5 P.M., will be subject to rent.
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No Free Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., Agents.
Hongkong, 30th July, 1918.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

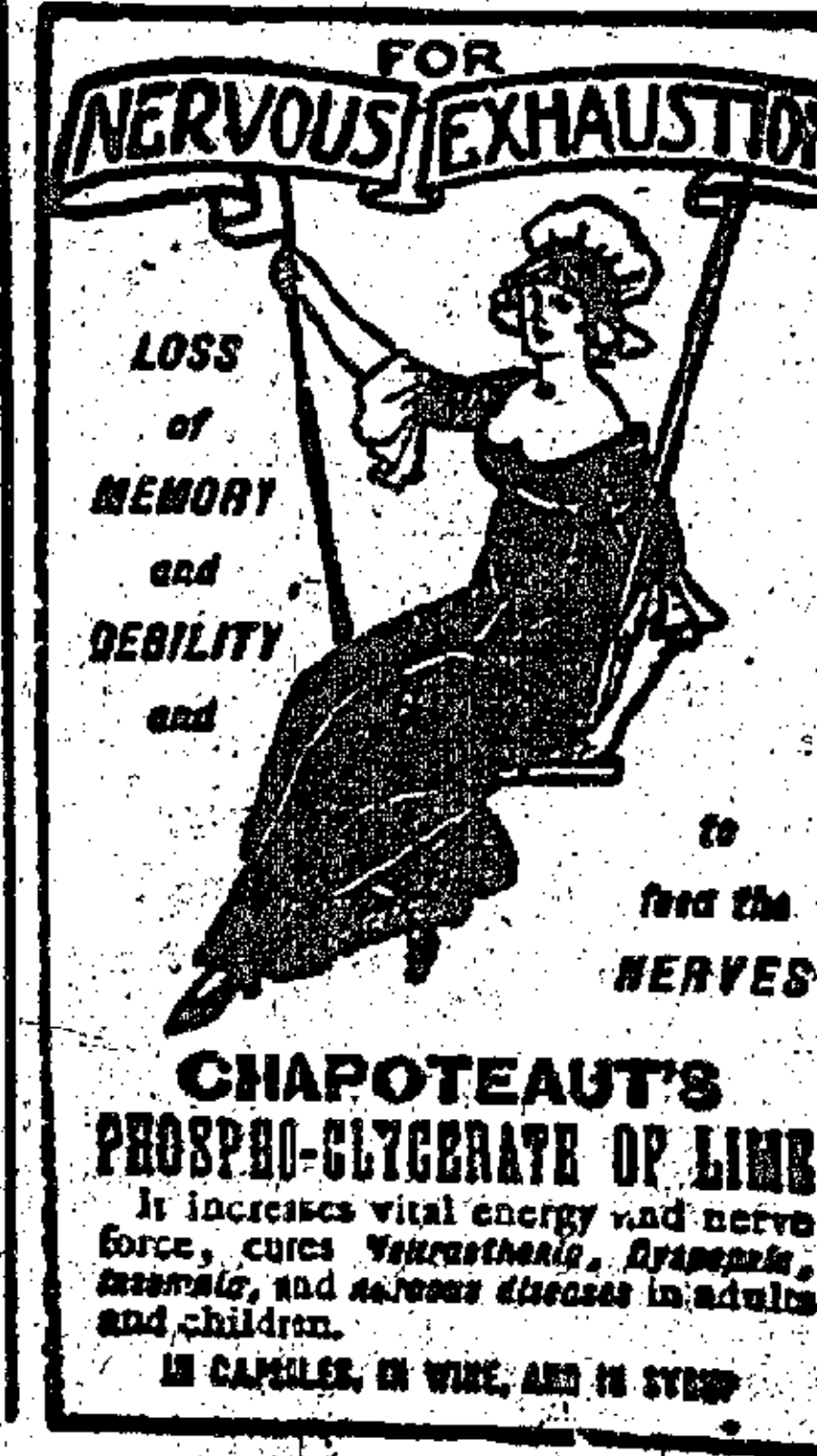
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TUNGTAO	"HWAH KUEI"	On 1st Aug. 5 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"SUIYANG"	On 3rd Aug. 5 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"KAIKONG"	On 5th Aug. Noon.
SHANGHAI	"SUNGKIANG"	On 6th Aug. Noon.
NEWCHANG	"PAOTING"	On 9th Aug. Noon.

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